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Resolution 1949-08-23 Wildlife on Military Reservations

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this 13th day of September, 1949, that we commend the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service for holding regional waterfowl meetings, and urge that the Service continue the holding of such meetings and extend the same into a greater number of localities throughout the United States.

4. **Migratory Waterfowl Flyway Management**

Resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in convention assembled at Winnipeg, Manitoba this 13th day of September, 1949, that we reaffirm previous resolutions requesting the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service to study and consider the proposal for correlation of waterfowl regulations in the Central and Mississippi flyways, and that they further consider the possibility of merging these two flyways, and that we further urge that the entire system of waterfowl regulation be interviewed with a view to greater recognition of local needs and problems within the respective flyways.

5. **Distribution of Surplus Pittman-Robertson Funds**

Resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in convention assembled at Winnipeg, Manitoba this 13th day of September, 1949, that we urge Congress to appropriate the unappropriated surplus to Pittman-Robertson funds, approximately \$13,500,000 to be distributed to the various states on the same basis as current Pittman-Robertson receipts at the rate of 20 per cent of such surplus each year until the entire amount has been distributed.

6. **Pittman-Robertson Funds for Territories**

Whereas under the present provisions of the Pittman-Robertson Act the appropriations available to the territories of the United States are insufficient to accomplish the purpose of the Act therein; and

Whereas the wildlife resources of these territories offer abundant opportunities for recreation to all citizens of the United States; and

Whereas there is definite need for expansion of activities for the development and management of these resources under the Pittman-Robertson program:

Therefore be it resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in convention assembled at Winnipeg, Manitoba this 13th day of September, 1949, that we urge passage by Congress of H. R. 3906, raising the annual appropriation limits under the Pittman-Robertson Act for Hawaii, the Virgin Islands, Alaska and Puerto Rico.

7. **Policy of Corps of Engineers under Wildlife Co-ordination Act**

Whereas this association believes that the provisions of the Wildlife Co-ordination Act, public law No. 732, are intended to require specific co-operation between the states and the Corps of Engineers in furtherance of wildlife conservation in connection with government projects; and

Whereas there is wide difference in the interpretation and application of these provisions among the various division offices of the corps of Engineers, and

Whereas efforts by certain groups of states to secure adoption by the Corps of Engineers of a definite uniform policy in furtherance of the real intent of said law and for co-operation with the states therein have heretofore been unavailing;

Now therefore be it resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish & Conservation Commissioners in convention assembled at Winnipeg, Manitoba this 13th day of September, 1949, that we request the Chief of the Corps of Engineers to establish a uniform policy for the interpretation and application of said law in accordance with the clear intent thereof for the government of all division offices of the Corps of Engineers and others concerned.

8. **Wildlife on Military Reservations**

Whereas the principal responsibility for management, regulations, and use of wildlife resources has always been recognized as resting with the states; and

Whereas, due to the war emergency, the necessity for restriction of the public use of certain areas for military purposes was cheerfully recognized by the public; and

Whereas since the war emergency has terminated, need for such restrictions has passed, but nevertheless the Department of the Army has continued to maintain the same and to exclude the public from the benefits of the wildlife resources of such areas, and to limit the use thereof to military personnel and their friends and associates:

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish, and Conservation Commissioners in convention assembled at Winnipeg, Manitoba, this 13th day of September, 1949, that we protest all such restrictions, urge that the control of the wildlife resources of such areas be restored to the states for public use and benefit, and that Congress enact appropriate legislation to that end if necessary.

9. **Federal Water Pollution Control Act**

Resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in convention assembled at Winnipeg, Manitoba this 13th day of September, 1949, that we commend the Congress and all other agencies instrumental in securing passage of the Barkley-Taft Water Pollution Control Act; that we urge Congress to provide adequate funds necessary to implement the Act; and that we pledge the support of the association to a nation-wide program of action to make the Act effective.

10. **State Rights in Navigable Waters**

Whereas by decisions of the United States Supreme Court the jurisdiction of the states over certain navigable waters and the lands thereunder appears to have been substantially curtailed, thereby threatening the proper exercise of state authority in respect of the conservation and control of fish, wildlife, and other natural resources in and under such waters:

Therefore be it resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish & Conservation Commissioners in convention assembled at Winnipeg, Manitoba this 13th day of September, 1949, that we urge the passage by Congress of necessary legislation to clarify the limits between state and federal jurisdiction in such waters and lands and to confirm to the states full authority therein so far as necessary for proper conservation and control of the natural resources thereof for the public benefit.

11. **Federal Wildlife Regulations in National Forests and Other Public Lands**

Resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in convention assembled at Winnipeg, Manitoba this 13th day of September, 1949, that we oppose the exercise of authority by any federal agency in prescribing regulations for the taking of any species of wildlife in the national forests or upon lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, or the charging of any license or permit fees therefor by any federal agency. We urge the several states in which such national forests or other public lands are located to adopt and carry out all measures necessary for the proper management and control of wildlife therein and for the protection of the timber, range, and other natural resources therein against damage from wild animals, so that the exercise of federal authority therefor will be unnecessary.

12. **Recreational and Wildlife Development in National Forests**

Whereas we recognize the great value and importance to the public of the recreational and wildlife resources of the national forests of the United States, embracing over 180,000,000 acres of public land, and including some 5,000 recreational areas open to the public for hunting, fishing, camping, and related recreational uses, in charge of the U. S. Forest Service; and

Whereas previous appropriations to the U. S. Forest Service for protection and development of these resources have been utterly inadequate to meet the growing needs of maintaining the recreational areas in the National Forests and supporting necessary work in habitat and wildlife management in co-operation with respective states:

Therefore be it resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in convention assembled at Winnipeg, Manitoba this 13th day of September, 1949, that we urge Congress to enact as soon as possible the measure known as S.2409, H. R. 2419, authorizing expenditure by the Secretary of Agriculture of 10 per cent of the annual receipts from the respective National Forests for the development, maintenance, and operation of recreational resources and areas, including wildlife resources, therein.

13. **Alaska Public Domain Lands**

Whereas there is pending before Congress proposed legislation designed to open up large areas of public domain land in Alaska for settlement by veterans; and